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MEMO TO: North Dakota Educators

FROM: Laurie Matzke, Assistant Superintendent
Division of Student Support & Innovation

DATE: March 3, 2016

RE: Important Updates

Please note the following four important updates:

- 1) Federal Title Programs Director Announced
- 2) Estimated State Allocations for Federal Title Funding
- 3) ESSA Regionals Agenda Posted
- 4) USDE Releases ESSA FAQ

1) Federal Title Programs Director Announced

I am pleased to announce that Stefanie Two Crow has been named the new director of the Office of Federal Title Programs effective March 1, 2016. Stefanie has worked with the federal Title programs for many years and has served as the deputy director of this office since June 2015, so she is well prepared to transition into the director position. Congratulations Stefanie!

2) Estimated State Allocations for Federal Title Funding

The U.S. Department of Education (USDE) has provided state education departments with estimated allocation amounts for the federal programs under ESEA for the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years. Title I received an approximate \$3 million increase. A chart listing the state amounts can be accessed on the department's website at www.nd.gov/dpi/uploads/1269/FTPestAllocations1617_1718.pdf.

3) ESSA Regionals Agenda Posted

The department is busy preparing for the regional trainings in April 2016 to update school personnel on the new federal law "Every Student Succeeds Act" (ESSA). The agenda has now been posted for these trainings. As outlined on the agenda, the trainings are applicable for superintendents, building principals, teachers working in a Title I program, homeless liaisons, and ELL personnel. All schools should plan to send staff to one of the three trainings. Information on the new federal law will be shared, and the details for how we will operate during the transition year (2016-2017) will be overviewed at these regional trainings. Online registration and the agenda can be found at www.nd.gov/dpi/SchoolStaff/FTP/Reauthorization/.

4) USDE Releases ESSA FAQ

On February 26, 2016, the USDE posted a set of frequently asked questions on the ESSA legislation. The FAQ is very comprehensive and can be accessed on the department's website at www2.ed.gov/policy/elsec/leg/essa/faq/essa-faqs.pdf.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this memorandum, please contact me at lmatzke@nd.gov or (701) 328-2284.